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China - general

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DECL: OADR

TO: The Secretary

THROUGH: P - Mr. Tarnoff

FROM: EAP - Winston Lord

SUBJECT: Your Meeting with Chinese Vice Premier and
Foreign Minister Qian Qichen
Wednesday, November 17, 3:30-4:30 p.m.,
Seattle

I. OBJECTIVES

1. Stress the need for rapid Chinese progress in human rights, nonproliferation, and trade.
2. Make clear President Clinton's commitment to improved U.S.-China relations if China makes the necessary moves.
3. Inform Qian of our decision to license satellite sales to China as a sign of our willingness to improve relations.

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II. APPROACH

U.S. policy of high-level engagement with China, initiated at your most recent meeting with Vice Premier Qian Qichen (September 30 in New York), has resulted in useful trips to China by Agriculture Secretary Espy, Deputy USTR Barshefsky, Assistant Secretary Shattuck, and DOD Assistant Secretary Freeman, and a similarly constructive visit to Washington by Vice Foreign Minister Liu Huaqiu. Our consistent message has been that Chinese progress is needed sooner rather than later in nonproliferation, trade, and especially human rights, if we are to achieve the fundamental improvement in our relations that both sides support. We have also made clear that the bilaterals in Seattle between Vice Premier Qian and you and between Presidents Clinton and Jiang are particularly propitious opportunities to show progress in the U.S.-China relationship.

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Real differences over human rights, trade, and nonproliferation continue to exist. Nevertheless, in response to our constant message that relations will suffer without significant progress on their part in all three areas, the Chinese have made positive gestures and indicated willingness to do more. [

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Your meeting with Qian will set the stage for the presidential bilateral, the first meeting between American and Chinese Presidents since before the June 1989 Tiananmen Square incident. The key message to convey is that serious positive steps are urgently needed and that we are prepared to take our own steps to improve relations. Your approach should be to stress the principal issues requiring progress; to make clear President Clinton's personal commitment to improved relations with China, providing the Chinese make the necessary progress on issues of concern; and to reveal our decision on satellites as a sign of our willingness to improve relations. If a mutually convenient time can be arranged, you may wish to propose to Qian another meeting in Seattle following that between the two presidents.

You should also take this opportunity to express to Qian the importance of U.S.-Chinese cooperation on regional issues like North Korea and Iran.

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III. PARTICIPANTS

U.S.

The Secretary
A/S Lord
A/S Shattuck
EAP/CM Director Keyser
(notetaker)
Ms. Vivian Chang
(interpreter)

China

Vice Premier Qian Qichen
Ambassador Li Daoyu
(Others TBD)

Attachments:

Tab 1 - Talking Points
Tab 2 - Biographic Information

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Cleared: EAP/CM:DWKeyser
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EB/TDC:JShelton
HA/BA:PHotze
PM/PRO:EMonroe
T:JBarker

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